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U.S. Should Totally Disengage from S. Korea

Troop Pullout Talks Start

U.S. President Carter's pledge to withdraw GIs from south Korea is setting on schedule. In this connection, last week witnessed new significant developments.

Philip C. Habib, Undersecretary of U.S. State for political affairs, and George Brown, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, May 24 flew to Seoul and held the first talks on May 25 and 26 with the south Korean "president" Pak Jung Hi, "foreign minister" Pak Tong Jin and "defense minister" So Jong Chol on the planned troop withdrawal.

It is reported that the American presidential envoys directly informed at the talks the south Korean dictator of the Carter Administration's uncompromising determination to carry out the troop pullout without fail. During the two-day talks, a withdrawal timetable was suggested to the Seoul "regime." According to the well-informed sources, it is planned on the part of the United States to phase out about 33,000 ground troops from south Korea over coming years.

In a desperate bid to resist the imminent U.S. disengagement from the region, the terror-ridden Pak Jung Hi on May 25 shamelessly insisted before the U.S. mission that the pullout would be coupled with American support to help south Korea build up its own "defense capabilities." On top of this, the fascist authoritarian eagerly urged the U.S. to keep its nuclear arms there as a "war deterrent," saying that Seoul would be forced to develop its own nuclear arms in case of the American nuke withdrawal.

Pak's outbursts are nothing but a death-bed attempt to deter the White House from pushing ahead with the GI pullout, thereby to prolong his totalitarian rule. There has not been any possibility of an "attack from the north," as Pyongyang repeated that it has no intention to invade the south and called for a peaceful reunification of the divided country without resorting to foreign forces. In addition, the DPRK has proposed in good time mutual arms reduction, provided that the U.S. troops are withdrawn from south Korea along with their nuclear arms.

U.S. Chief of Staff in S. Korea Fired

Prior to the U.S.-south Korea consultation on the GI withdrawal, President Carter demonstrated his unswerving intention to put into effect his campaign pledge, by resolutely ruling out opposition to it from the U.S. military.

The U.S. president on May 21 dismissed Maj. Gen. John Singlaub from his post as U.S. chief of staff in south Korea for saying his troop withdrawal plan could lead to a war.

Singlaub told a Washington Post correspondent from Tokyo, "If we withdraw our ground force on the schedule suggested, it will lead to war."

It is for the first time that a U.S. president fired a field commander since Harry Truman dismissed Gen. Douglas MacArthur as U.S. supreme commander in south Korea during the 1950-1953 Korean War.

After Singlaub's dismissal, Defense Secretary Harold Brown on May 22 on the television defended the U.S. policy of pulling GIs out of south Korea, making it clear that the total troop withdrawal would proceed.

Meeting the press in Washington on May 26, Carter once again defended his policy on south Korea. He said that there had "never been a policy revised for permanent placement" of the U.S. troops in the region. He added that the time has come for a withdrawal from south Korea.

Thus, the recent developments prove that the U.S. troops stationed in south Korea will be withdrawn sooner or later from there, in disregard of Seoul's frantic opposition.

But, the Carter Administration intends to leave the 7,000-man air force intact in south Korea, assuring the Pak Jung Hi clique of its continuing "defense commitment" to Seoul. What is more, the White House designs to phase out even the ground troops over four or five years in a manner not to "destroy the military balance" on the Korean Peninsula. The period of the planned U.S. troop pullout suggests that it will not be finished within Carter's presidential term. Furthermore, consultation with Seoul and Tokyo is required as a precondition for the withdrawal. This notwithstanding, south Korea and Japan pose themselves as opponents of a U.S. policy change on the peninsula.

These are a fat cry from Carter's original pledge to completely withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea and ban any support to such a repressive regime as Pak Jung Hi's south Korea. In fact, what Carter said in his election campaign differs from what he has done since.

In view of this, it is necessary to wait and watch how Carter honours his pledge.

The U.S. president should carry into practice the total GI pullout from south Korea.

And all the U.S. armament should be withdrawn from there along with nuclear armament.

No Need to Defend S. Korea

The U.S. Congress expressed its support for President Carter's pledge to withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea.

The U.S. ground forces are in south Korea for political purposes and are no longer needed to "defend" the region, the Congressional Budget Office reported on May 25.

It said the U.S. troops should be transferred to Europe or brought home to mainland bases.

The report to a House International Relations subcommittee said, "U.S. ground forces stationed in south Korea are there solely for political purposes, not as critical resources in defending" south Korea against attack."

Rodong Sinmun Flays Pak Clique re GI Withdrawal

Commenting on the blare of puppet Pak Jung Hi on May 25 that "there is no change yet in our stand for the maintenance of the status quo of the U.S. troops in south Korea," Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) May 27 says: It is a treacherous act bartering away the country and betraying the nation to seek to detain the U.S. troops in south Korea, desperately opposing their withdrawal.

Noting that only the puppets are dead set against the U.S. troops' pullout from south Korea at a time when it has become a topic of a more frequent discussion in the U.S. political circles and it is unanimously demanded by the Korean people, the world peace-loving people and unbiased public opinion, the commentary says:

Repeating the shopworn "anti-communist" propaganda, that is, "threat of southward invasion," the Pak Jung Hi clique gabble that if the U.S. troops are withdrawn from south Korea, the "deterrent force" will disappear and the north-south "military balance" be wrecked.

Their argument that the U.S. troops should stay in south Korea as a "deterrent force" against us and as a means of maintaining the north-south "balance" is intended to incite north-south confrontation with the backing of the outside forces and thus foster antagonism and conflict within the nation, disturb peace, key up tension, hamper reunification, fix division and realise their lust for long-term office.

No one in our country has the intention to "invade the south" and solve the question of the country's reunification by force of arms, the commentary declares, and continues:

It is our invariable stand to solve this question in a democratic and peaceful way with the united efforts of the north and south, without outside interference.

If so, whom do they mean to "deter"? And it is not the voice of a Korean to cry for "deterring" comparisons with the help of the foreign troops.

They also betray their intention to fix the division of the country by claiming that the U.S. troops should be detained in south Korea and the "military balance" maintained.

The puppets contend that peace can be preserved in Korea only by a "balance." But, if peace is to be maintained in Korea, the foreign troops must be withdrawn from south Korea, the military confrontation between the north and the south be eliminated, division be prevented and the country be reunified.

Pointing to the cry of traitor Pak Jung Hi for "replenishment and completion first and withdrawal next," the commentary goes on:

This slogan is, in the final analysis, designed to accelerate the "modernization" of the equipment of the puppet army by introducing more U.S. military "aid" and fasten the U.S. troops to south Korea indefinitely on the expedient pretext that "replenishment and completion" has not yet been achieved.

The U.S. troop withdrawal from south Korea has an important bearing on the question of reunifying Korea independently and peacefully and of maintaining the peace and security of the whole of Asia.

American military presence in the region presents a constant danger of war and encourages the south Korean dictator Pak Jung Hi in his bestial desire to stamp out civil rights.

In view of this, the U.S. troops should immediately be withdrawn from south Korea, as U.S. President Carter pledged to do so during his campaign.

The Americans as well as the Koreans urge the United States to disengage itself from south Korea. As the world public joins in this demand, the troop withdrawal is an irresistible trend in world public opinion.

This notwithstanding, the White House holds that it will take four or five years to pull GIs out of south Korea, saying that it requires prior consultation with Seoul and Tokyo and their consent. This reveals that Washington tries to delay the process of troop withdrawal.

Such a statement is intended for nothing but to deceive the world public.

Among other things, the U.S. Administration excludes the air force from the planned withdrawal of the U.S. forces from south Korea. Not only the ground force but the naval and air forces should be simultaneously pulled out of the region.

If President Carter wishes to ease tension on the Korean Peninsula and to stabilize peace in Asia and the rest of the world, he should sincerely lead ears to world public opinion and carry into effect his pledge without delay. Furthermore, an end should be promptly put to U.S. aid to the Pak Jung Hi dictatorial regime set on perpetuating the division of the peninsula.

President Kim Il Sung said in his interview with the visiting executive managing editor of the Japanese daily Yomiuri Shimbun, Apr. 23: "In his campaign pledges, Carter said he would withdraw U.S. troops from south Korea and would denounce a regime that tramples on human rights. And recently he announced the lift of the ban on travel to some countries including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. All this can be regarded as a favourable attitude toward our country. But the problem is, what he said in his campaign pledges differs from what he has done since."

When the Carter Administration puts into practice its pledge to withdraw U.S. troops from south Korea and conduct diplomacy based on morality, a condition will be created favourable for easing tension there, stabilizing peace in Asia and, further, for ending Korea's division.

But, some sections of the administration intend to lay obstacles to the troop withdrawal, calling for "strengthening a tripartite military alliance"—U.S., Japan and south Korea—and "increasing military aid to Seoul."

This is clear from the fact that they have frequently conducted joint military exercises and that U.S. Congress in April passed a bill for providing south Korea with military aid amounting to 280 million dollars for fiscal 1978 or as much as last fiscal year. These moves diametrically contravene Carter's campaign pledge.

In a letter addressed to the U.S. Congress in March 1974, the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposed a peace treaty between the DPRK and the U.S.A. to replace the existing Korean Armistice Agreement, in an effort to stabilize an unstable peace in Korea. But, Washington has not yet made any response to the peaceful proposal. What is more, contrary to Carter's pledge, some U.S. policymakers argue that the withdrawal of U.S. armed forces will lead to war in Korea.

It is regrettable to us Koreans to hear such sophistry from the Carter Administration.

Further, we cannot suppress our indignation over Tokyo's opposition to the troop withdrawal and its backing of the authoritarian Seoul "regime."

This hostile attitude toward a new direction in U.S. policy on Korea will only aggravate the situation in Korea and endanger peace in the whole of Asia. In the final analysis, this is intended to create "two Koreas" and pave the way for Japan's reinvasion of south Korea.

We, together with the world public, hope the Carter Administration will withdraw forthwith the nuclear-armed U.S. troops from south Korea and accept the DPRK's proposal for a bilateral peace treaty.

Also, we demand the U.S. Administration stop instigating the Japanese Government to replace it in supporting the Seoul "regime."

We maintain that this is the best way for the United States to meet the unanimous demand of the Americans and the world public as well as of the Koreans.

EDITORIAL

Resolution on S. Korea

A resolution on the fascist dictatorship in south Korea was also adopted at the world assembly.

Denouncing the Pak Jung Hi fascist dictatorial "regime" for its sanguinary and brutal suppression of the south Korean people who demand the democratisation of society and the peaceful reunification of the country, the resolution demanded:

1. The immediate abolition of the Pak Jung Hi fascist "revitalized" dictatorship and the cessation of suppression, torture and massacre of south Korean people.

2. The immediate release of all the patriots and democratic personages of south Korea arrested and imprisoned for their advocacy of the democratization of society and the peaceful reunification of the country.

3. The cessation of the assistance of the governments of the United States, Japan and other related countries to the fascist dictatorial regime of south Korea.

World Peace Assembly Supports Peace Accord

The World Assembly of Builders of Peace was held in Warsaw from May 6 to 11, according to a KCNA report.

The assembly was attended by 120 national delegations, including a DPRK delegation, and delegations from 150 international organizations.

It discussed on a number of questions of common concern as follows: to maintain peace and security of the world; to fight against fascism and neo-fascism; to strengthen the solidarity with the peoples in their struggle against colonialism, racism and apartheid and for national independence.

The world assembly adopted a resolution on Korea and a resolution on the fascist dictatorship in south Korea. And an appeal to the people of the world was adopted there.

Resolution on Korea

A resolution on Korea said:

The assembly,

- Considers that the reunification of Korea should be realized by the Koreans themselves without any outside interference according to the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity as clarified in the July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement.

- Demands the immediate withdrawal from south Korea of the U.S. troops and all other foreign troops which create tension in Korea, menace peace in this region and obstruct the reunification of the country.

- Rejects the "two Koreas" plot of the splitists within and without running counter to the legitimate aspirations and rights of the Korean people for the reunification of the country.

- Demands the U.S. Government accept forthwith the proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to replace the Military Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement.

- Supports the just struggle of the oppressed south Korean people for the reunification of the country and democratic liberties.

- Demands that the countries giving "aid" to the south Korean "regime" stop all military and economic "aid" to the fascist "regime" of south Korea, particularly, all assistance and cooperation in the nuclear field and demands that the United States immediately bring all nuclear weapons out of south Korea.

- Calls for supporting the four-point proposal of the joint meeting of political parties and public organisations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated January 25, 1977 on convening a north-south political consultative conference consisting of representatives of political parties and public organisations and people of all strata in the north and south.

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3. The cessation of the assistance of the governments of the United States, Japan and other related countries to the fascist dictatorial regime of south Korea.

U.S. Del. Writes To Carter

Eighty-five members of the U.S. delegation to the World Assembly of Builders of Peace adopted a letter to the U.S. President on May 10.

The letter said:

Whereas: reunification is in the best interests of all the Korean people and is a policy which has been consistently advanced by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; whereas the U.S. Government's maintenance of an army in south Korea and its policy of bolstering the repressive south Korean regime is the basic cause of Korea's division—trampling on her sovereignty and posing a constant threat to world peace.

We demand:

1. The immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from south Korea—as you promised during the election campaign;

2. An end to all military aid to the south Korean government, which is using this aid to brutally violate the basic human rights of the south Korean people; and

3. Acceptance of the DPRK's proposal to replace the Military Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement.

Japanese Savants Demand "Seabed Pact" Be Abolished

The Japanese Government and the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, in defiance of opposition from other parties, are doing everything in their power to ram the "coastal state's continental shelf pact" through the House of Councilors after it was railroaded through the House of Representatives on May 10.

In an effort to enact the "pact", the government was trying hard to extend the current session of the Diet due to close May 28, hand in glove with the opposition Democratic-Socialist Party.

Inside the Diet, the opposition Socialist Party, Communist Party, Komeito and the New-Liberal Club were taking a joint action to frustrate this government attempt, refusing the Liberal-Democrats' proposal to extend the current session.

In response to this joint action in the Diet, the Japanese people in all walks of life are increasingly joining in a campaign against the controversial "continental shelf pact", branding it as a byproduct of the dirty Seoul-Tokyo connection.

Grass-roots movements are being organized on a nationwide scale. Meetings are being held in different parts o this country to demand the abrogation of the "seabed pact". Local representatives are lodging strong protests with the Foreign Ministry and the Diet against the planned ratification of the "pact."

On May 23, a symposium on the "continental shelf pact" was sponsored by the Committee of Those Concerned with the Korean Affairs in the Diet-men's Hall, with the attendance of some representatives of the opposition parties. Present there were more than 100 prominent scholars and cultural leaders.

The symposium adopted a statement, main points of which are as follows:

1. The "continental shelf pact" is a byproduct of the shady ties among international petroleum capital, the Pak Jung Hi "regime" and the Korean lobby in Japan;

2. Violating international law, it will harm the Japanese people's interests in the long run;

3. It aims to facilitate military cooperation among the U.S., Japan and south Korea, as it will serve to promote the transfer of materiel from Japan to south Korea;

4. It is designed to give support to the Pak Jung Hi "regime", politically, financially and militarily, place an obstacle in the way of the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea, and will cause an international dispute among the countries concerned with the seabed because the DPRK and China do not agree to the "pact";

5. We denounce the government for signing the "pact" unilaterally with the Pak Jung Hi "regime" and demand that it be abolished.

Representatives of the participants in the symposium May 24 met Liberal-Democrat Kaneyasu Ishii, chairman of the steering committee of the Lower House, in the Diet building and demanded that the "pact" be abrogated.

Meanwhile, 60 scholars and cultural leaders on the same day issued a statement demanding the "seabed pact" be cancelled, and handed it to the chairman of the steering committee of the Lower House.

Emergency meetings were held in Hyogo, May 20, in Okinawa, May 21 and in other parts of the country including Chiba and Osaka, in protest against the government's move to get the Diet ratify the "continental shelf pact", regardless of public opinion.

Yugoslavia Denies Rapprochement with Seoul

Mira Kalezic, spokesman of the Federal Foreign Secretariat of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, had a press conference on May 19, according to a KCNA report from Belgrade.

At the press conference he was asked whether he can confirm a recent report from Japan that "south Korea asks for a dialogue with the Soviet Union and China using the services of Yugoslavia." He was also asked to comment on the writing of the Japanese news agency that "Belgrade recently adopted a friendly attitude towards south Korea and that relations between Seoul and Belgrade improved as a result of this."

Answering these questions, the spokesman said:

"This information is entirely groundless. What kind of Yugoslavia's services can be discussed when it is well known that Yugoslavia has no relations with the Seoul regime and that it constantly improves friendly relations and cooperation with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with which Yugoslavia, among other things, has common interests in strengthening the unity and activities of the non-aligned countries?

"Otherwise, it is well known that Yugoslavia, together with all the other non-aligned countries, speaks for peaceful reunification of Korea founded on the July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement."

Izvestiya Castigates "Pact"

A recent issue of the Soviet paper "IZVESTIYA" carried a commentary flaying the plotted "ratification" of the "Japan-south Korea agreement on continental shelf," according to a Tass report from Moscow.

Noting that the south Korean rulers are bartering away the national resources, the paper said:

The question of utilizing the continental shelf in the coastal waters of south Korea is not one confined to the relations between Japan and south Korea alone. It is a question related to the national sovereignty of the entire Korean people. The south Korean "regime" cannot represent the interests of the Korean people and, accordingly, it has no right to dispose of at will the national resources of the Korean people.

Japan tries to subjugate the south Korean economy and to secure for herself through the "ratification" of the "agreement."

In his statement on the "agreement" between Japan and south Korea, a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea noted that "the continental shelf of our country is the precious wealth of our nation, which no one can prejudice or dispose of, going against the interest and will of the Korean people."

The broad public circles of the DPRK resolutely oppose another illegal collusion between Japan and south Korea.

REUNIFICATION POLICY (9)

(Continued from the previous issue)

4) TO INAUGURATE A NORTH-SOUTH CONFEDERATION

This is for inaugurating a confederation composed of the DPRK of the north and the "ROK" of the south, keeping the present governments and social systems intact.

The confederation should come into being under the single name of the Koryo Confederal Republic when national unity is achieved through a great national assembly. The Confederal Republic will be represented by a supreme national congress to be composed of the same number of representatives of north and south Korea appointed by each government.

The task of the Confederal Republic is to create conditions for Korea's gradual and complete reunification as well as to deal with a series of questions of common concern.

The Koryo Confederal Republic intrinsically differs from any existing models in other countries.

In the first place, it is not a permanent institution but a transitional one to herald Korea's complete reunification. The immediate task assigned to the Confederal Republic is to create conditions favourable for peaceful reunification and the ultimate task to form a unified single government. Therefore, it will be dissolved, with the establishment of a unified government.

Further, the confederation should allow different social systems, ideologies and ideals to coexist within it.

Koryo is the name of an ancient unified state which existed from 918 to 1392 on the Korean Peninsula. The English name of our country, Korea, originates in Koryo. So, this name is acceptable to the world public as well as to the Koreans.

5) TO ACQUIRE UN MEMBERSHIP AS KORYO CONFEDERAL REPUBLIC

This will make a great contribution toward frustrating the "two-Korea" plot and creating an international atmosphere favourable for Korea's reunification.

In an attempt to maintain a grip even on south Korea alone, the United States is doing all it can to create "two Koreas." Among other things, by realizing the simultaneous admission to the UN of north and south Koreas as separate states, the U.S. tries to make "two Koreas" an internationally accepted "fait accompli."

Therefore, the single representation of Korea in the UN as the Koryo Confederal Republic, a unified Korean state, alone can smash the conspiracy to fix the division of our country.

Until the UN representation of Korea as a single entity is realized, the DPRK, as a party concerned, should be entitled to participate in debate on any matter concerned with Korea in the international organization. Thus, the country is separately admitted to the UN as an observer for the time being.

The DPRK is also admitted to various subsidiary organs of the UN and other international organizations assisted to technical and working-level cooperation among nations, as they are not political organizations like the UN, and, on top of this, south Korea cannot represent the national interests of Korea.

The DPRK's separate membership in the international community of nations is fundamentally different from the south Korean version of "two Korea."

Consequently, we have to say that the five-point programme of national reunification advanced by President Kim Il Sung is the most reasonable and fairest measure to terminate the longstanding division of Korea.

The latest four-point reunification proposal made at the Jan. 25 Pyongyang joint meeting of political parties and public organizations is a more concrete embodiment of the three principles and the five-point programme.

There has been no change at all in the stand maintained by the DPRK in an effort to bring earlier the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

(Concluded)

Japanese Commend President KIM IL SUNG's Talk

Japanese public figures have issued statements after reading the talk of the great leader President Kim Il Sung with the executive managing editor of Japanese Yomiuri Shimbun and his party.

Shimizu Makoto, professor of the Tokyo Metropolitan University, said:

Under the present situation of a subtle shifting of the U.S.-Japan-south Korea collusion and relations, such a great leader as President Kim Il Sung in his recent talk gave a clear-cut and correct evaluation of the situation which is so impeccable. This is highly important, I think.

The talk of President Kim Il Sung is, indeed, a guiding compass which lights the path of struggle with a scientific and clear-cut analysis of the present situation. In my opinion, the President passed an entirely correct judgement when he said we would have to wait and see as regards the attitude of the Carter administration.

Underlying his so calm and cool assessment of the questions related to the United States and Japan is the unshakable conviction of the reunification of Korea, I believe.

A critic Maiya Kenichiro said:

The talk of President Kim Il Sung with the executive managing editor of Yomiuri Shimbun and his party is fully justifiable; it is marked by modesty and conviction.

In the DPRK, the children and students are educated at state expense.

In the economic aspect, it strictly adheres to the building of an independent economy and opposes economic dependence.

This naturally reminds us of the "debt-ridden economy" of south Korea.

One of the most important points that comes next is President Kim Il Sung's view of the United States.

The President does not have the slightest illusion about the United States or make haste, but is calmly watching the Korean policy of the Carter administration with his deep insight.

The withdrawal of the U.S. forces in south Korea will be carried out, sooner or later, though there might be some twists and turns, I think.

What the President said about Japan is entirely just.

President Kim Il Sung said:

"What we expect from the Japanese government is that it refrains from acts detrimental to the reunification of our country."

Reasonable is this request to Japan for not obstructing reunification at least.

It is an only too natural and justifiable demand to urge Japan to pursue a policy not obstructive to reunification, in other words, to ask no longer for the permanent presence of the U.S. forces in south Korea, discontinue acts of supporting the suppression of human rights in south Korea and refrain from helping the reactionary rulers of south Korea to feather their own nests.

Inoue Shunhachi, professor of Rikkyo University, said:

President Kim Il Sung gave in his talk a very elastic and realistic judgement of the Korean policies of the Carter administration of the United States and the Japanese government.

The President impressed us favourably especially when he clearly pointed to the good and bad aspects of the policy of the Carter administration concerning the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from south Korea, not negating it categorically. We supporters of the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and the reunification of Korea enthusiastically hail this.

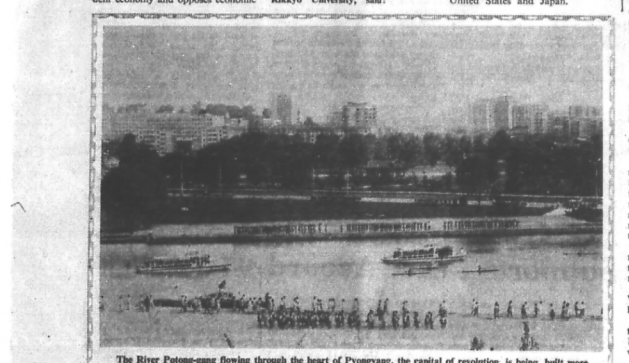
Of the Japanese government the President did not make an unreasonable demand, but only hoped that it would refrain from acts detrimental to the reunification of the country.

This request is based on understanding of the position of Japan.

Declaring that Korean reunification cannot be regarded as hopeless, the President said that for reunification it is necessary, first of all, for the south Korean people to awaken and rise up to bring about the democratisation of south Korean society.

The President spoke words of principle based on the Juche idea when he attached importance to the independent struggle of the south Korean people.

It means much to the Japanese people, too, to hear from President Kim Il Sung through his talk a correct evaluation of the new situation after the change of the governments in the United States and Japan.



The River Potong-gang flowing through the heart of Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, is being built more beautifully into a place of culture and rest for the working people.

When three big dikes now under construction on the River Potong-gang are completed, three artificial lakes will make their appearance and clean water will flow through a falling sluice.

But before liberation it was a river of tears, a river of rancor.

Clustered there were straw-mat houses of the poor people.

Every year a flood swept away the shabby houses of the poor.

After liberating the fatherland, President Kim Il Sung proposed the river improvement project for the prosperity of the fatherland and the happiness of the generations to come, attended the ceremony to mark the start of the project and personally broke the ground, taking the first historical shovel on May 21, 1946.

New wharves for accommodating many excursion boats and attractive suspension bridges will also appear on the river.

Besides, two big warm water fish breeding grounds are being built on the banks of the river.

The green belts along the river banks will be expanded and small parks laid out there to add to the beauty of the scenery.

The River Potong-gang is a grand recreation ground where the working people in the capital have a pleasant rest.

Improved Transport

The daily freightage now is 50,000 tons above the daily average in the first quarter year under the Ministry of Railways.

This peak record this year has been registered through the "200 day battle for transport revolution."

Upholding the policy of transport revolution put forward by the great leader President Kim Il Sung, the 13th Plenary Meeting of the Fifth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held early in April took measures for launching from May 1 the "200 day battle for transport revolution" to bring about a radical turn in concentrated transport, transport in boxes and joint transport.

In this connection, the Ministry of Railways, the Pyongyang, Kaechon, Hamhung and Chongjin railway administrations and a number of locomotive corps, passenger and freight train corps, railway line corps and railway stations held employees meetings toward the end of April.

This is a drive to effect a new great revolutionary upsurge in transport and lay a firm foundation for the brilliant fulfilment of the tasks of the year of readjustment to successfully hit the high goal of the new long-term plan.

The workers under the Pyongyang Railway Administration pledged themselves to increase this year the freightage by more than 30 per cent above last year's results and make preparations to transport one million tons of more freight next year than this year.

The workers under the Hamhung, Chongjin and Kaechon railway administrations are resolved to lift the daily freightage by between 50 and 90 per cent in the period of the battle above the daily average in the first quarter year, by building more concentrated goods stations, raising the mechanisation rate in the loading and unloading operations and, at the same time, intensifying concentrated transport, transport in boxes and joint transport.

Their commitments are being materialised with credit from the outset of the battle.

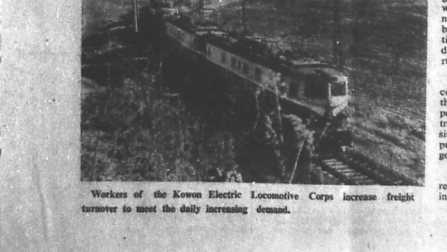
The Chongjin Railway Administration is accelerating the construction of concentrated goods stations and expansion of station compounds with the massive support of many factories and enterprises. And it established a concentrated transport system of directly carrying headings of the Musan Mine, coal, cement, timber and other heavy freight from the production sites to the consumption areas. Their daily freightage in May is 18,000 tons above the daily average in the first three months of the year. This railway administration has raised the rate of concentrated transport in the total freightage to above 58 per cent.

The Pyongyang Railway Administration has increased the number of the trains serving concentrated transport in May and raised the rate of concentrated transport 8.5 per cent as against April to transport more goods than in the previous month. The workers of the Kowon Electric Locomotive Corps surpass the fixed quantity by 50 per cent in transport by energetically waging the increased traction drive, while ensuring non-breakdown run on schedule.

The passenger and freight train corps of the country are carrying out their daily assignments at over 130 per cent to send passenger and freight trains faster to the animated battle sites of socialist construction by pushing ahead with the work in a go-ahead way.

The "200 day battle for transport revolution" is also gaining momentum in auto and water transport.

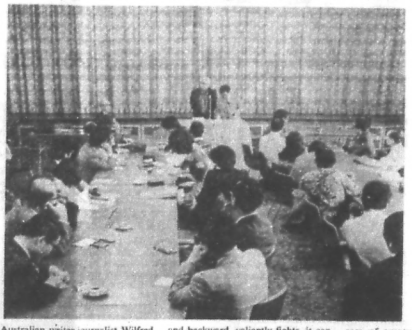
(KCNA)



Workers of the Kowon Electric Locomotive Corps increase freight turnover to meet the daily increasing demand.

Lecture on Korean Issue

By Wilfred Burchett



Australian journalist Wilfred Burchett gave a lecture on the Korean issue in Tokyo on May 7.

Australian writer-journalist Wilfred Burchett gave a lecture on the Korean issue in Tokyo on May 7.

The lecture meeting sponsored by the Japan-Korea Solidarity Committee of Social Scientists was attended by a large number of Japanese university professors, scholars and prominent figures including Yasui Kaoru, professor at Hosei University and chairman of the Japan-Korea Solidarity Committee of Social Scientists; Ubukata Naokichi, professor at Aichi University; Kawamura Jinya and Motohashi Atsushi, professors at Yokohama National University.

In his lecture Wilfred Burchett said to the following effect:

I spent five weeks recently in Vietnam, where I thought of the Korean issue.

Similarly, each time my thought comes to the Korean issue, I think of the Vietnamese issue.

It's because both issues have many similar points, that is, because the two peoples have defended the territories, cultural heritages and national traditions of their countries for thousands of years and both of them had suffered from a colonial rule for a long time.

History knows well that these two nations have waged struggles to defend their fatherlands and the right to national self-determination.

In the same position Korea and Vietnam have bravely fought against big imperialism.

In particular, the great victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War showed the whole world that if a country, however small and backward, valiantly fights, it can surely win.

Under the outstanding leadership of the great President Kim Il Sung, the Korean people defeated U.S. imperialism. This was really a great feat.

The Vietnamese people, emulating the tradition of this struggle of the Korean people, valiantly repulsed the U.S. imperialists and firmly defended the Vietnamese territory.

Two or three weeks ago I witnessed in Ho Chi Minh City of Vietnam the reunion of families who had been separated in the north and the south. But I have not yet seen such scenes in Korea. I cannot but feel heartrending grief as if this tragedy were mine.

Korea was the first to defeat U.S. imperialism.

Today the Korean Peninsula has been most thoroughly divided artificially and such elementary things as visits and postal exchange between families are denied. Further, in south Korea many revolutionaries and patriots are arrested and penalized.

To this the world's people attach great attention. It is natural, in particular, that the public opinion of Japan, a neighbouring country, plays a big role for the reunification of Korea.

The ways for the reunification of Korea are two. One is the method of war and the other peace. At present in south Korea there are 600 nuclear warheads and vehicles needed for their transport, according to the official announcement of the U.S. government. Under this condition, you can guess what will happen in case of eventuality. It is, therefore, very justifiable that the people of Japan only hundreds of kilometres away from south Korea, protest against the deployment of nuclear weapons there.

Today when the south Korean puppets announced that they would have nuclear weapons, it is necessary, I think, for the Japanese newspapers dealing much with south Korean affairs to arouse public opinion still further so that the south Korean puppets may not act at will.

U.S. President Carter talked about the withdrawal of the U.S. troops. Carter's presidential election campaign pledges are the phased pullback of the U.S. troops from south Korea. The United States people, who witnessed the "Watergate" case and underwent the Vietnam war, do not want the second Korean war.

When the Carter administration advanced an argument about the U.S. troops pullout from south Korea, it was welcomed in the world but strongly opposed by Japan and south Korea.

Incomprehensible is Japan's attitude in the light of both prospective and immediate national interests of Japan.

Japan's attitude exerted some influence upon the Carter administration and caused wavering on the part of the Washington side. The U.S. troop withdrawal will become decisive one if Japan stands for it.

It is not right that Japan tries to establish in south Korea economic relations based on the neo-colonialist order by use of cheap labour force by making large investments including pollution industries, just as the U.S. imperialists carried out economic aggression in Vietnam.

When we consider that in the United States there is strong public opinion calling for the U.S. troop withdrawal, Japan will be isolated in the world if she continues to give "aid" to the south Korean puppet government which can not stand on its own feet.

Japan should not keep economic relations with south Korea alone but develop trade with the northern half of the Republic with rich underground resources and a strong economic power. It will be good for Japan's trade development.

As the great President Kim Il Sung said, Japan should improve and develop trade relations with the northern half of the Republic on the principle of equality and mutual respect.

The policy of national reunification formulated by the great President Kim Il Sung is the most reasonable and just policy; it is a sagacious policy which is in full accord with the July 4, 1972, north-south joint statement and the UN resolution on the Korean question and greatly contributes to the interests of the Third World.

At present, the Korean question is the focal point. If the Japanese government supports the reunification of Korea, it will be praised not only by the Japanese but by the Asian peoples as a correct action of a politician.

To support the reunification of Korea will benefit Japan, and, at the same time, greatly contribute to defending the human rights of the south Korean people, realising the withdrawal of nuclear weapons and accelerating reunification.

I arrived in Japan just a few days ago. But I clearly felt that an interest in the Korean question is very great in Japan and the broad sections of the Japanese people support the reunification of Korea.

Today when the Vietnam war is over, the world people doubt why the U.S. troops are still present in Korea, a part of Asia. All the progressive forces in Korea, Japan and the rest of the world must strive for an early end to such sorrowful situation.

After his lecture, Wilfred Burchett answered questions.

At the lecture meeting Chairman Yasui Kaoru made a closing address.

He said that the Japanese scholars would make a deep study of the reunification policy advanced by the great President Kim Il Sung and express more active support and solidarity for the Korean people's struggle for national reunification.

The lecture meeting was held in an atmosphere of great interest in the Korean question.

Subsidiary Food Production

Solid bases for the production of such subsidiary food as vegetables, meat, eggs and aquatic products have been built in our country which gathers in a bumper harvest year after year.

One of the successes registered in laying solid subsidiary food production bases is the building of vegetable production bases.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung, attaching particular importance to the problem of vegetables in the dietary life of our people, has wisely solved this problem by making the vegetable production intensive, specialized and diversified.

Large-scale vegetable production bases have been built around Pyongyang and other cities and in the workers' districts throughout the country, and cooperative farms have vegetable workteams.

The Ryongsong Greenhouse Farm in Pyongyang and greenhouses and vinyl houses of cooperative farms throughout the country supply the people with fresh vegetables in winter. Pyongyang has nearly doubled the vegetable production over the last 10 years.

Our stockbreeding has developed into a modern large-scale collective economy with its own solid fodder base, breeding system and technique and facilities to supply the people with meat and eggs in sufficiency.

There are modern state-run stock-farms specialized in raising pigs, cows, chicken, duck, rabbits, etc. on the outskirts of big cities and in major industrial districts. Each cooperative farm has a stockbreeding workteam. The state-run stock-farms have introduced an intensive production method and produce meat, eggs and so on by an industrial method through the automation of all processes.

The Pyongyang Pig Plant with an annual production capacity of 10,000 tons of pork and other pig plants and cow farms in different parts of the country supply the people with a great quantity of meat and milk.

In our country there are the Mangyongdae Chicken Plant with an annual production capacity of 100 million eggs and large modern chicken plants in Sopo, Ryongsong, Sariwon, Songrim and many other places. Our working people expanded on a large-scale the Chongjin Chicken Plant, the Kwangpo Duck Plant and other chicken and duck plants from 1971 to June 1975. In this period more than 30 chicken and duck plants made their appearance in local areas.

Now our chicken plants produce in 11 days as many eggs as produced in the whole year of 1946.

Cooling cars carry 10,000-15,000 duck every day from the processing shop of the Unggi County Combined Farm located in the northern tip of the country.

In the recent ten years the meat output rose 14 times in chicken and 4 times in duck.

Large quantities of aquatic products are supplied every year to the people. Their catch showed an increase of 1.5 times during the period of the fulfilment of the Six-Year Plan.

With the development of stock-breeding, poultry farming and fishing industry the supply of meat, eggs and aquatic products to the people in 1974 rose respectively 1.7 times, 2 times and 1.3 times as against 1970.

A signal progress has been made in the subsidiary food processing industry to make the dietary life of the people more bountiful.

There are the Sinpo Fish Cannery with an annual production capacity of 100,000 tons and other aquatic products processing factories, fish canneries and refrigerating factories on the east and west coasts of the country. Besides, pork, chicken and duck processing factories and the soybean paste and edible oil and other subsidiary food factories built in various parts of the country help toward making the lives of the working people more affluent. (KCNA)

Production of vegetables is being raised in large. Photo shows the hothouse production of vegetables in the Ryongsong Cooperative Farm, Pyongyang.

News in Brief

May 13

* Joachim Yhombi Opango, President of the Military Committee of the Congolese Party of Labour, Head of State and President of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of the Congo, received Li In Gyu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Congo.

May 16

* A DPRK delegation of the fair of science and technology for transfer headed by Li Gwan Sok left Pyongyang by plane to attend the Second International Fair of Technological Innovations and Technology for Transfer among the Developing Countries to be held in Yugoslavia.

* An agreement on cooperation in post and telecommunications between the Governments of the DPRK and the Romanian Socialist Republic was signed in Bucharest.

May 17

* Moreau Yves Fernand, chief of foreign policy services of the organ of the Communist Party of France "L'Humanite," and his wife flew into Pyongyang at the invitation of Rodong Simmun, organ of the Central Committe of the Workers' Party of Korea.

* A parliamentary delegation of Costa Rica arrived in Pyongyang by plane at the invitation of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly.

* A cultural delegation of the DPRK headed by Chang Chol left Pyongyang by plane to attend the Third Cultural Congress of Bulgaria.

May 18

* A government delegation of the DPRK headed by Li Yong Chang left Pyongyang by plane for the Sudan to attend the celebrations of the 8th anniversary of the victory of the May revolution and the inauguration of the Youth and Children's Palace in the Sudan.

May 20

* A friendship visiting delegation of the Chinese People's Liberation Army arrived in Pyongyang by special plane for a visit to the DPRK.

* A delegation of the General Federation of Industrial Technology of Korea headed by Li Yong Su left Pyongyang by air to attend the Seventh Meeting of the All-Union Association "Knowledge" of the Soviet Union and the Sixth Meeting of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations to be held in Poland.

* Prof. and Dr. Giancarlo Elia Valori, Secretary General of the Italian International Relations Institute, and his mother arrived in Pyongyang by plane. (KCNA)

Seoul-Tokyo Ties in Saudi Arabia

The Japanese monopolies make all-out effort to strengthen their dirty connections with the south Korean comprador capitalists in order to make an economic inroad into the Middle East under fire from people the world over. Japan's economic tie with south Korea in this respect is aimed at receiving cheap labour power from south Korea.

Over 20 persons from big Japanese construction companies held a "south Korea-Japan construction cooperation consultation" with their south Korean counter parts on April 11 and 12 during their stay in Seoul.

A "south Korea-Japan construction association" was established as a result of the "consultation" in order to promote "technical cooperation and other cooperative relations—or in order that south Korea and Japan may help each other in their construction work abroad. Choe Jong Hwan and Atsumi Takeo, president of Kajima construction company, were appointed chiefs for south Korea and Japan respectively.

The "south Korea-Japan construction association," cooked up by the Pak Jung Hi junta and the Japanese monopolies, is designed to promote Seoul-Tokyo fusion so as to successfully carry out economic inroads into the Middle East.

South Korean workers are forced to do so heavy labour that they cannot have enough time to have a meal to their hearts' content.

Aim of "S. Korea-Japan Construction Association"

As a matter of fact, the "south Korea-Japan construction association" was established to put an end to competition between Seoul and Tokyo in economic invasion of the Middle East and to make a secret agreement to help each other in securing labour power, construction funds and techniques. This shows how the Japanese monopolies are leaving no stones unturned to extricate themselves from the world-wide crisis and how desperately the Pak Jung Hi junta is trying to restore the destroyed south Korean economy by obtaining foreign currency.

In other words, the south Korean authorities, working as subcontractors for Japan, want to eat crumbs of bread given by Japanese monopolies by providing low cost labour to them.

According to the April 7 issue of "Seoul Kyongjae Shinmun" which carried an article entitled by "a Background to the South Korea-Japan Construction Cooperation Consultation", the "south Korea-Japan construction association" paid special attention to overcoming competities in winning orders from third world countries. It is also aimed at enabling Japan and south Korea to defeat competition from other countries in receiving orders, with the high technique and strong financial power of the Japanese monopolies and with the cheap labour of south Korean people offered by the Pak Jung Hi junta.

The south Korean authorities will earn large sums of money from the Japanese monopolies at the cost of south Korean people.

S. Korea-Japan Joint Inroad into Middle East

South Korea and Japan had been locked in sharp competition in the Middle East before this arrangement was made.

Constructors in many countries were invited to a bidding early March in Saudi Arabia for construction of a power cable systems and a power station. Representatives from Japan, the United States, England, West Germany and Switzerland attended the bidding. The order for construction was given to a south Korean constructor with the public tender cancelled.

The south Korean comprador capitalists were reported to have offered huge bribes to the Middle Eastern countries concerned. They went the length of accepting the construction order at a below-cost price.

Harmed by this, the Japanese monopolies proposed the south Korean junta to hold a "south Korea-Japan construction cooperation consultation" in order to maintain their leadership in construction work in Saudi Arabia.

The Japanese monopolies are to be responsible for main construction projects there and south Korea is to receive part of the profits from the projects by providing cheap labour.

The November 19, 1976 issue of "Nihon Keizai Shinmun" reported that the Pak Jung Hi junta had decided to send 100,000 south Korean workers by Japan Air Lines to Saudi Arabia where the second development plan started on a full scale early this year.

A Japanese source commented these facts: "The formation of the 'south Korea-Japan construction association' creates a new hot-bed of dirty connections between south Korea and Japan. The south Korea-Japan consultation was allegedly held under the personal direction of the Japanese shadow boss who exercises great influence on both the Pak Jung Hi junta and the Japanese construction business circles. It is clear to all eyes that the Japanese shadow boss received a few hundreds of millions of yen for his role as a go-between, and Pak Jung Hi was also given a stupendous bribe.

New Bribery Source

There is another dirty tie between south Korea and Japan in connection with their joint economic inroads into Saudi Arabia.

Strong resistance was put up at the end of 1975 in Ecuador by south Korean workers who had been taken there by "Sinhan machine industry construction company." The company was working under a subcontract with a Japanese construction company, which had won an order for construction of an oil refinery there.

The resistance was caused by low wages, bad working conditions, heavy labour and Japanese engineers' insults to south Korean workers. This shows clearly the true nature of the Japanese monopolies and south Korean subcontractors who want to make a profit at the sacrifice of south Korean workers.

Japanese workers were paid an allowance of six to eight dollars per day, while south Korean workers were paid only 1.5 to 2 dollars.

South Korean workers were in such a miserable plight that they had no money enough to buy a pack of cigarettes. Their wages are almost entirely controlled by the Pak Jung Hi junta.

"Sinhan machine industry" took to Ecuador 260 south Korean workers, who worked there for about one and half years.

Then, a sum of 4.5 million dollars was to be paid to "Sinhan machine industry" under a subcontract with "Chiyoda chemical industry."

A Japanese who participated in the investigation of the riot of south Korean workers in Ecuador commented as follows on the 4.5 million dollar subcontract.

"According to an employee of 'Chiyoda chemical industry' who returned from Ecuador, the monthly wage of south Korean workers there was 200 dollars at most.

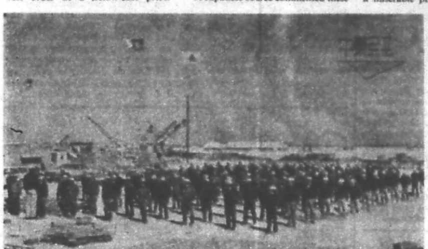
Only 1.2 million dollars was paid 260 Korean workers in the past one and half years if "Sinhan chemical industry" paid them 260 dollars as wages and allowance per worker. A difference of over 3 million dollars was produced, if 1.2 million dollars were paid to the workers from the 4.5 million dollar subcontract.

Most of the difference was shared among south Korean and Japanese mediators who had helped in the conclusion of the subcontract.

South Korean enterprises must offer huge political funds to the Pak Jung Hi junta if they hope to make an economic inroad abroad.

"Sinhan machine industry" ranked 43rd in contract amount in 1975 with 133rd in 1971.

South Korea-Japan fusion was raised from non-government levels as in the case of the subcontract between "Sinhan machine industry" and "Chiyoda chemical industry" to government levels through the formation of the "south Korea-Japan construction cooperation consultation."



Shown here are south Korean workers in Saudi Arabia.

Assassination Order Out on South Korean Radio Commentator in U.S.

The Washington Post reported on May 19 that the "KCIA" intimidation of Korean exiles in the US was still continuing.

Following is reprinted from the Washington Post.

☆ ☆

The grim Korean phrase "up se burida," an assassination order, has been transmitted from Seoul to the Korean Central Intelligence Agency in this country.

Its operatives have been instructed to eliminate one of the South Korean regime's most outspoken critics, radio commentator Dr. Youngche Kang. By exposing the plot in advance, hopefully we may save his life.

We cannot reveal how the death message was intercepted, without endangering sources. But U.S. authorities are aware that the terse words "up se burida" have been received by the KCIA in America.

The phrase, according to Korean linguists, means "to be eliminated by force" or "to dispose of by force" or "to be made to disappear."

The broadcaster got wind of his danger a few days ago and complained to the Washington field office of the FBI. For several months, the FBI has been investigating KCIA intimidation of Korean exiles in the United States.

This isn't the first time that Kang has been menaced by the KCIA. On Aug. 17, 1973, The New York Times reported that he had received a less explicit threat. He was then editing a monthly political sheet, "Free Republic," which was highl critical of South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

Kang's mother had written from Korea, warning that she and his brothers would be in jeopardy if he continued his attacks on President Park. This was followed by a similar letter to his publisher, Sun Nam Chung, from a relative. Kang is convinced that both letters were dictated by the KCIA.

Kang is an associate of Kim Dae Jung, who challenged Park for the presidency in 1971. Kim came to Washington in 1973 to complain to us about Park. Not long afterward, the exile leader was abducted in broad daylight from a Tokyo hotel.

On Dec. 1974, we published his account of how he had been dragged aboard a ship, lashed to a wooden board and weighted down with huge stones. The appearance of an American helicopter in the area probably saved him from being cast overboard. His abductors finally dropped him off in Korea where he was placed under house arrest.

At the urging of Kim's friends, we made a personal appeal to President Park to free the opposition leader. Interestingly, Park agreed that the abduction was probably the work of the KCIA. But he added earnestly: "I swear to God that I had nothing to do with this ugly affair." He refused, nevertheless, to release Kim.

Later, on July 17, 1975, we reported that the KCIA was buying off U.S. congressmen and terrorizing Korean exiles in this country. A Korean embassy spokesman called this "outright, malicious slander."

Yet the following year, South Korean Ambassador Pyong Choon Hahm admitted that KCIA agents had used "goon psychology and tactics" against Korean residents in the United States. He announced that the agents had been ordered back to Seoul.

We have evidence, however, that they are still threatening and harassing Korean exiles. A source with direct, official knowledge confirmed that a KCIA assassination order has been received against Kang.

Meanwhile, Kang is continuing his radio attacks upon the Park regime. He is also active in the Korean Congress for Democracy and Unification, a human rights committee founded by the kidnapped Kim.

Kang, however, checks under his car each time he drives and is wary of strangers near his suburban home.

Footnote: We warned on Nov. 16, 1975, that Chile's secret police had "hired thugs to track down and assassinate prominent exiles." The following September, exile leader Orlando Letelier was blown up in his car as he was driving down Washington's embassy row. Investigators are convinced that Chilean agents arranged the assassination. Now once again, we are giving advance warning of an assassination plot. Let's hope the authorities will be able to prevent it this time.

¥3,000 Mil. Higher Overcharged Subway Coach Sale

Another overcharged subway coach sale to south Korea was disclosed on May 18 in the Upper House Audit Committee by a communist legislator Kato Susumu.

He charged that the Japanese-supplied coaches for the Seoul subway project had been priced ¥3,000 million higher than so far known.

Japanese firms which handled the export deal, claimed the rolling stocks had been sold for an average of ¥63,900,000 per coach.

Citing the minutes of the transport and communications committee of the south Korean "national assembly" on Oct. 11, 1973, Councillor said the south Korean procurement agency had bought Japanese-made rolling stocks for ¥80,110,000 per coach: as per coach difference of ¥16,210,000.

As 180 coaches were involved, the total balance amounted to about ¥3,000 million. This vast sum had been used as rebates to the Japanese side, the Councillor pointed out.

According to the minutes, the per coach price of ¥80,110,000 was regarded as the lowest of the bidded prices.

A Lower House interpellations held on Feb. 17 and 24, this year, confirmed that the cost of the Seoul subway construction had been inflated to create political payoffs to Pak Jung Hi and pro-south Korea Dietmen.

The controversial coaches were delivered to Seoul in 1973 for its subway line.

Reunification Forum (18)

Great Unity of Overseas Koreans

(Continued from the previous issue)

The International Conference for a New Direction for U.S. Korea Policy was held in New York from April 1 to 3, 1977. At the conference south Korean delegates from abroad issued their own statement, which reads as follows:

"We appeal to all the Koreans at home and abroad to realize a nation-wide union in order to make the Pak dictatorial regime retire and bring about the fatherland's reunification with our strength. We propose to hold a conference of overseas Koreans as a first trial."

Since last year, the formation of an anti-Pak "government," national united front has been called for in south Korea. A call for the formation of a nation-wide united front by overseas Korean compatriots in response to the voices of people at home is of great significance.

Patriotic Words Of Aged Man

Today the biggest task of the Korean nation is the reunification of its fatherland.

Pak Un Sik, author of the "History of the Korean National Liberation Movement," wrote as follows in his testament.

"I would like you to convey my words to my fellow-countrymen.

1. A nation-wide unity should be realized for an independence movement.

2. Because the liberation movement is a movement of the highest cause, any method or policy can be made use of for that cause.

3. There should be no love or hatred, no intimacy or estrangement among the activists of the movement as the independence movement is for a great common cause of the entire nation."

Former "president" Yun Bo Son, who is one of the "defendants in the March 1 manifesto case," appealed to the public with the "patriotic words of an aged man who was confronted by death," in his "statement of reasons for appeal."

Yun called for the dignity of the nation, restoration of democracy, freedom and the fatherland's reunification, in the court of truth, in the court of history, speaking for the voiceless people of south Korea. As voice of justice, his call reached the Koreans abroad across the seas and mountains.

Duty of Rather Free People

In October 1973, students at Seoul National University rose up for an anti-dictatorship struggle, getting through the close nets of brutal suppression and surveillance. Then they demanded that the truth about the Kim Dae Jung affair be probed. Democratization movements continuing since the end of last year have demanded a probe into the truth about the Pak Dong Son case. The south Koreans were not informed of the two affairs—the Kim Dae Jung and the Pak Dong Son case—when they occurred because of the severe press gag. Struggles abroad including those of overseas Koreans may be said to have aroused struggles among the people at home.

The Pak "regime" imposed heavy penalties upon some 10 defendants in the March 1 declaration for democracy and national salvation. But the people dealt a telling counter blow at the "regime"—The "second declaration for democracy and national salvation," "the open letter to demand Pak's resignation," "the declaration of workers' human rights," "the declaration of the families of prisoners of conscience," "students declaration for democracy and national salvation," "the charter of democracy and national salvation" and so on. Publication of such statements is continuing and steadily spreading.

At a time like this, the Korean people, whether they live within the fatherland or without, should not call into question each other's ideologies and organizational affiliations.

Now is the time for all the overseas compatriots to rise up unitedly for the struggle to accomplish the common cause.

It is the national duty of us, overseas Koreans, who enjoy more freedom than our compatriots in south Korea, to strengthen our struggles overseas to help in the struggle there.

(To be continued)

Dependent Economy of S. Korea Goes Downhill

South Korea was heavily dependent upon the US and Japan for its trade in 1976.

A Japanese English daily wrote that south Korea's import scale last year reached $8,773,630,000, of which $5,061,860,000 was imported from the US and Japan. This was based on an analysis on the 1976 export performance given by the puppet economic planning board.

According to its analysis, in its trade with Japan, south Korea exported $1,801,550,000 worth to Japan last year, while importing $3,098,960,000 worth from that country, thus sustaining a trade deficit of $1,297,410,000.

South Korea suffered sizable deficits in its trade with 14 states, including Japan, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Iran, Kuwait, France, Argentina, South Africa, New Zealand, Thailand and India.

The south Korean economy tightly bound to foreign economy, especially to the U.S. and Japanese economy, is down with no bottom in sight.

Under the cloak of "modernization," the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique has hastened the militarization of economy by inducing foreign monopoly capital. This has rendered the south Korean industry more dependent on foreign monopoly capital and plunged it into a hopeless total crisis.

The south Korean economy today is incapable of the least necessary enlarged reproduction.

The rickety manufacturing industry is in poor shape with no supply of home raw materials.

The machine-building industry grievously backward in technique and production level and in scale, cannot properly produce even accessories, let alone machinery. Such being the situation of heavy industry, light industry, too, remains backward, unable to replace its old equipment with new one.

Still more serious is the crisis of agriculture. It can hardly meet the demand of the people for food and animal products, and even the negligible needs of industry.

The dependent nature of the south Korean economy is noticeable in many aspects, such as funds, materials and technology, and is most pronounced in funds.

Even according to figures released by the south Korean puppet economic planning board, the south Korean foreign debts which will have to be paid in the five year period between 1977 and 1981, the principal and interest put together, come somewhere around 10,000 million dollars. And the U.S. press estimates that the unpaid debts of south Korea will grow by 2,000 million dollars annually in the five years to come.

The Pak junta leaves to foreign marauders all but entirely the control over the south Korean economy.

Foreign monopolies control 100 per cent of the fertilizer and auto industries and construction, 99 per cent of metal and oil refining industries, 96 per cent of machine and accessory production, 97 per cent of electric and electronic apparatus manufacturing, 98 per cent of food processing and 92 per cent of transport and custody business.

And the bulk of the south Korean enterprises depend on import for machinery. The proportion of imported machinery is close to 90 per cent.

The random import of machinery without regard to raw materials compels south Korea to depend on foreign countries for 80 to 100 per cent of the raw materials it needs.

The electric power, oil refining, fertilizer and chemical industries, railways and other domains of transport, in which U.S. monopoly capital has been invested, are based on energies from oil for which south Korea depends entirely on import.

It relies on Japan for more than 90 per cent of synthetic fibre, irons and steels, and zinc, for 85 per cent of petrochemicals and for 74 to 75 per cent of aluminium, artificial fibre and paper.

Dependent on foreign monopolies for fund, material and technology, the south Korean economy fashions production, distribution and consumption in their interest.

The exploitation and plunder by foreign monopolies are getting harsher in south Korea.

Even according to drastically understated figures of the south Korean press, the profits squeezed by them in south Korea worked out at 205,440,000 dollars in 1973, 325 million dollars in 1974, and 440 million dollars in 1975.

Facts show that the south Korean economy is a colonial dependent economy tightly bound to foreign monopoly capital.

It is so heavily dependent on foreign economy that it catches cold if the latter coughs. This is a result of the reactionary economic policy of the Pak junta which has induced foreign "aid" without discretion.

Miserable Plight of S. Korean Workers

Labour accidents take a heavy toll of human lives and the number of occupational disease sufferers increases year after year in south Korea.

According to dwarfed figures released by the south Korean puppet clique, last year labour accidents in the industrial domain claimed more than 97,300 casualties, of which over 900 proved fatal.

Labour accidents are appalling in the south Korean ore and coal mines.

Installed at the time of the Japanese imperialist rule, their facilities are worn-out and, worse still, no labour safety steps are taken there.

The Pak Jung Hi junta and capitalists are very stingy of investments to install labour safety devices.

The mines have no ventilation and drainage facilities in their pits where the air is damp and suffocating and timber props are rotten. As a result, cave-ins are very frequent.

More than 5,000 ore and coal miners in south Korea lost their lives or became crippled in labour accidents in one year of 1976.

This year, too, heavy casualties were caused by labour accidents at ore and coal mines in south Korean Kangwon Province, South Chungchong Province, North Kyongsang Province and other provinces.

In one month from late January, cave-ins in south Korean Kangwon Province killed or maimed scores of workers.

In March many coal miners were killed in cave-ins at the Songju and Wondong coal mines in South Chungchong Province.

Many casualties are caused by labour accidents in other domains, too.

Meanwhile, a large number of south Korean workers are suffering from occupational diseases.

Even according to doctored figures announced by the south Korean puppet clique, 50 per cent of the ore and coal miners in Samchok and Kangrung areas are silicosis or pneumoconiosis cases and more than 40 per cent of the chemical industrial workers in south Korea are poisoned by toxic materials.

Seventy-five per cent of the female workers hired at the tobacco factories under the control of the south Korean office of monopoly are sufferers of such occupational diseases as arthritis, spinal curvature and pelvis deformation.

The number of occupational disease sufferers is growing year after year in south Korea.

In 1976 it showed a 33.3 per cent increase over the number of 1975.

The number of pneumoconiosis cases among mining workers rose 4 times in 1976 as compared with 1972 and the number of those workers who lost their hearing due to noises nearly doubled lasy year as against 1973.

These sufferers cannot get medical treatment, because they have no money. Many of them are falling at the work sites, while doing hard toil.

This misery of the south Korean workers is an inevitable result of the anti-popular policy of the Pak junta. It shows part of the present reality of the corrupt and ailing, reactionary social system of south Korea.

South Korean juvenile workers are living a miserable life, harshly exploited and maltreated by their employers.

The juvenile workers of textile companies, auto-repair factory and iron-works in Chinju, South Kyongsang Province, are forced to work over 15 hours a day on an average, on paltry wages no more than one eighth of the minimum living cost.

Even the south Korean radio noted: the wages of the juvenile workers are too small to provide them with physical and mental living conditions. But their work intensity is too high and working hours are too long, compared with their wages.

Reporting about the position of bus conductresses, the radio said: They are forced to work from 5 in the morning to 11:30 at night every day. When the time needed for odd jobs is taken into account, they have only 4-5 hours to lie in bed.

The juvenile workers frequently suffer from labour accidents because of inadequate working conditions.

The inhumane exploitation of juvenile workers is prevalent in all fields in south Korea.

South Korean workers are groaning under the harsh labour.

U.S. Troop Pullout Inevitable Trend of Times

The proposed phase-out of American ground troops from south Korea took its first concrete step toward its realization when Phillip Habib, U.S. Undersecretary of State, and Gen. George Brown, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, May 22 visited south Korea for initial talks with the Seoul "regime" on Carter's proposed withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea.

The determined attitude of the United States to withdraw all ground troops from south Korea can be clearly seen in the fact that Carter May 24 removed Gen. John K. Singlaub as U.S. military chief of staff in south Korea for publicly criticizing Carter's plan to withdraw U.S. ground troops from south Korea.

In the face of the firm attitude of the U.S. government, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique was thrown into confusion, desperately making efforts to cope with the situation by putting brake on the withdrawal.

Firm Attitude of U.S.

At the formal consultation between the U.S. and south Korea on the withdrawal question, Washington is said to have promised to provide Seoul with $3,500 million in military aid in the next five years while Seoul will spend $1,500 million out of its own resources.

About the time of this formal consultation, the U.S. expressed its firm attitude toward the troop withdrawal through statements by Carter himself and some high-ranking officials.

In connection with the removal of the U.S. military chief of staff, Carter issued a statement on May 20.

Carter, in a statement made public by White House Press Secretary Jody Powell, said he still plans to withdraw American ground troops from south Korea over the next four to five years.

Replying at a press conference in the U.S. to the question why he has relieved Singlaub of his post as chief of staff of the U.S. forces in south Korea, Carter May 27 defended his position on the troop withdrawal.

Defending the phase-out of U.S. ground forces over a period of four or five years, he said that there had "never been a policy evolved for permanent placement of such troops in south Korea."

On the other hand, Defense Secretary Harold Brown said in a CBS interview on May 23 that the total withdrawal would take the next four to five years, and added "we would not be pulling out our ground troops if we believed that it would lead to a war.". This utterance by the Defense Secretary definitely shows that the U.S. would not recognize the south Korean authorities' long bankrupt propaganda about the "threat of southward invasion."

Moreover, on May 18, the Congressional Budget Office told a House International Relations sub-Committee meeting said that "the U.S. ground forces stationed in south Korea are there, solely for political and deterrence purposes, not as a source of danger in the 'defence' of south Korea."

Since the planned withdrawal of U.S. ground forces from south Korea developed from "Carter's election campaign pledge" into a "link in U.S. global strategy," the U.S. will not reconsider the withdrawal itself, though with certain possible alterations in scale and method, in consideration of resistance from the U.S. military or complaints by some allied countries.

U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND SALES TO KOREA
(millions of dollars)

Programs	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	TOTAL
1. Military Assistance Program (Grants including the Foreign Military Training Program)	291.2	155.5	149.6	94.1	82.6	* 76.5	849.5
2. Credit Sales (FMS Credit Sales)	15	15	25	56.6	59	*126.	
3. Excess Defense Articles (Grants) (1/3 of acquisition value)	17.1	14.3	9.1	5.9	1.0	*8.3	55.7
4. Other Grants (including PL91-652, PL480, sec. 104)	106.2	184.7	.2	0	0	0	291.1
5. Ship Loans	0	3.2	5.7	0	0	0	8.9
6. Administrative Costs of U.S. Advisors (JUSMAG)	15	14.6	14.9	10.8	7	7.3	69.6
Sub-Totals	$444.5	387.3	204.5	167.4	149.6	218.1	1571.4
7. Military Assistance included in Defense Department Budget (MASF)**	208.2	188.9	133.5	0	0	0	530.6
GRAND TOTAL	$652.7	576.2	338.0	167.4	149.6	218.1	2102.0

* Proposed
** These funds were for the support of South Korean forces which fought in South Vietnam. The money went for the operation and maintenance of South Korean forces as well as new equipment and supplies, some of which were returned to South Korea.

From a treatise "Korea and U.S. Policy in Asia" presented by Rear Admiral Gene LaRocque of the Center for Defense Information, a prestigious private institute in Washington, January, 1974

Phillip Habib (left), Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs and Gen. George Brown (right), Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived at Kimpo Airport, south Korea, for discussing the withdrawal question of U.S. ground troops from south Korea.

Fear-Stricken

Meanwhile, the Pak "regime," sensing that it is impossible now to reverse the withdrawal plan, has changed its attitude of opposing the withdrawal, and is going to accept it on condition that the U.S. sufficiently reinforce the south Korean armed forces.

The Pak Jung Hi puppet "regime," which has suppressed the south Korean people under the pretext of "developing national power" against "communism" and the "threat of southward invasion," cannot conceal its confusion.

According to reliable U.S. sources, the planned withdrawal of the second infantry division of the U.S. forces in south Korea has been alarmed Pak Jung Hi and other high-ranking south Korean officials as never before. The sources also said that "Pak Jung Hi cannot afford to express his uneasiness in public. If he does so, the south Korean people will be panic-stricken and the likelihood would be that he would—to commit the "same error" as the South Vietnamese "regime."

Pak Jung Hi, in a press interview with the UPI President and the AFP President at Chongwadae, (the Blue House) assumed a defiant attitude toward the withdrawal, saying that "there is no other way for us but to accept President Carter's troop withdrawal announcement as an established policy of the U.S. government. Since the U.S. government's policy to phase out its ground troops from south Korea has been formalized, I have no intention to ask them to stay longer."

On April 14, Pak Jung Hi inspected the Chongwon industrial complex of defense industrial establishments, in South Kyongsang Province. There, Pak Jung Hi said that "weapons must be produced with our own efforts in anticipation of a major decrease in military assistance from the U.S. after 1977," stressing the "self-defense" and trying to ease internal uneasiness caused by the partial withdrawal.

Dirty Measures to Cope with Pullout

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, which was thrown into a confusion by the firm attitude of the U.S. government, is making desperate efforts to take measures to meet the situation.

From May 6, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique, having received notice about a formal consultation between the U.S. and south Korea on the withdrawal plan, held meetings almost every day at Chongwadae—a "minister-level conference," a "conference of authorities concerned" and a "national defense conference."

At the conferences the Pak "regime" affirmed six-point measures to cope with the withdrawal.

The six-point measures are to:

—Demand the pullout of the U.S. ground forces on a minimum scale over a long period of time.

—Oppose the removal of nuclear weapons and ask for their continuous deployment in south Korea.

—Urge the U.S. to provide south Korea with $3,500 million in military aid for the "4th five-year economic development plan" (1977-81).

—Urge the U.S. commander to return the prerogative of supreme command to the south Korean army in order to check the U.S. side in its withdrawal plan.

—Urge the U.S. to make efforts to enable the Pak "regime" to conclude a "nonaggression treaty" with the DPRK.

—Urge the U.S. to make efforts to get the Pak "regime" seated in the United Nations together with the DPRK, and realize a four-country conference of China, the Soviet Union, the U.S. and Japan to discuss Korea's reunification, in order to help the Pak "regime" to develop its "two-Korea" plot.

The above-mentioned measures are intended for nothing but for opposing the troop withdrawal.

Prior to the formal consultation, the Pak Jung Hi clique hatched the most sophisticated plot—fabrication of the "firing incident" and the "south Korean fishing craft capture incident."

By cooking up these "anti-communist" incidents, the clique repeated its long bankrupt propaganda about the "threat of southward invasion" in a desperate effort to prevent the withdrawal. They resorted to fabricating "false incidents" each time they are faced with a crisis.

Constant Danger Of War

There is a constant danger of war in the Korean Peninsula.

The largest component of the American military forces in south Korea is the 14,600-strong 2nd infantry division and the 11,000-strong 19th support group. The U.S. Air Force combat units consists of two squadrons of supersonic F-4 fighter bombers. A total of approximately 50 U.S. F-4 fighter bombers are now based in south Korea.

The U.S. spends approximately $500 million per year to maintain its armed forces in south Korea.

The most politically controversial component of the American military force in south Korea is, of course, a large number of nuclear weapons deployed there. It is estimated that there are several hundreds—perhaps as many as 686—nuclear weapons of various types (artillery shells, missile warheads, warheads, bombs and land mines) in south Korea.

According to an informed source, the U.S. is afraid that if it continuously deploys its armed forces in south Korea, it wouldn't able to keep out of world war, should the Pak "regime" start a war.

Today when the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea has become a matter of great concern in the U.S. and when the U.S. government has expressed its firm attitude toward the troop withdrawal, the south Korean "regime" is importunately asking for the permanent presence of the U.S. troops in south Korea, thus revealing more clearly their true colors as a traitor.

The withdrawal of the U.S. forces from south Korea is the trend of the times, nobody can prevent.

From the U.S. weekly magazine TIME, June 18, 1975

Firing Exercise Staged in South Sea

The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique staged a madcap firing exercise in the vast expanse of waters east of North and South Kyongsang Provinces from May 14 to 19, according to a report from south Korea.

In this period the puppets banned the navigation of all ships and fired bullets and shells in the waters day and night.

Earlier the south Korean puppet clique carried out a four month long war exercise in the waters southeast of Koje-do Island in the South Sea from January to April and war exercises in the waters off Pohang and in the eastern coastal waters on the extension of the Military Demarcation Line in early April.

The latest war exercise staged by the puppets on the sea is a continuation of their premeditated military rackets designed to stir up a war atmosphere.

This indicates that the puppet clique are becoming more reckless in their criminal manoeuvres to deliverately aggravate the situation in an attempt to find a pretext for detaining the U.S. troops in south Korea.

Glimpse of South Korea

* A young man surnamed Li residing in Maejon-myon, Chongdo county, North Kyongsang Province, and others who had been "called up" several times since last August for the training of the "homeland defence reserve forces" have boycotted it, according to a report from south Korea.

A young man surnamed Chong residing in Tado-myon, Raju county, South Cholla Province, has also boycotted for the last 20 days the training of the "homeland defence reserve forces" imposed upon him by the military gangsters. Having received a "call-up paper for training" young man Chong Hae Sik residing in Hamyol-myon, Iksan county, North Cholla Province, concealed his whereabouts, rejecting the treacherous military training.

The ever-mounting struggle of the south Korean youth and middle-aged is throwing into the depth of uneasiness the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique seeking a permanent national split and a new war.

* The fascist police of the puppet Tongdaemun police station, Seoul, on April 26 nabbed an inhabitant named Li Bon Jo on the charge of "traffic offense" when the latter was going to cross the railway in Sinsol-dong, Tongdaemun district, and savagely beat him, according to a report from Seoul.

When the victim fell more dead than alive, the scoundrels carried him to the municipal mental hospital, preposterously branding him as "mentally deranged," with the sinister intention to conceal their crime. When the victim died less than three days later, they, hand in glove with the hospital profiteers, cremated his body without the knowledge of his family.

* The puppet home minister in his "open letter" to the puppet provincial governors and police bureau chiefs on May 17 ordered them to "ban" the collection of working fund and expenses of functions which had so far been raised from the population under the pretext of the "new village movement," according to a report from Seoul.

But he did not forget to add that an exception should be made of the money "voluntarily donated by inhabitants."

This is a crafty ruse to intensify plunder under the hypocritical slogans of "one's own will," "voluntariness," "of one's own accord" and so forth.

As everyone knows, the south Korean puppets ruthlessly fleece the population under the cloak of the "new village movement." The puppets even impose upon the people the expenses of their revelry and feasts while gadding about villages allegedly for "encouraging" the "movement."

* In south Korea the industrial production as a whole suffered depression in April, with its index skidding badly, according to a report from Seoul.

The industrial output in south Korea which is undergoing a chronic economic crisis dropped in January by more than 10 per cent below the negligible figure of December last year.

The slump continued in February in steel, cement, coal, fibre and other domains. No wonder that the puppet reptile press raised shrill cries over "a shorter fall than had been expected" and "the business that can hardly pick up."

Entering April, the economy as a whole "continued downhill, undergoing the same slump as in February."

Such decrease of industrial output clearly indicates the hopeless confusion into which the south Korean economy has been plunged due to the crimes of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique bent on treachery and war provocation.

* The Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's foreign indebtedness registered 7,627 million dollars or 3 trillion and 800,000 million won as of the end of last year, according to a radio report from Seoul quoting data released by the "economic planning board" on May 14.

The actual amount of debt the puppets have to pay is far greater than this astronomical figure if their debt registered in the form of foreign capital invested is taken into account.

NOTICE

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54 S. Korean Women Appeal For Support

The wives and mothers of south Korean democratic figures now in prison made public a statement entitled "To the Mothers and Wives of the World" calling upon them to extend support and encouragement to the struggle for the release of the democratic figures, who are detained by the Pak "regime" on grounds that they demanded that the "emergency decrees" be abolished for the democratization of the south Korean society and that Pak step down from "power."

The statement was published on May 20 at a meeting held at the "Christian Hall" in Seoul, in the name of 54 women including Kong Dok Gui, wife of former south Korean "president" Yun Bo Son, who is one of the signers to the "declaration for democracy and national salvation."

The statement pointed out that "husbands, sons and daughters are being expelled from their jobs, or schools and are imprisoned only because they expressed the will to restore democracy and human rights" and appealed to the mothers and wives of the world to pray for "south Korean sufferers and south Korea."

Tokyo Bar Assn. : Li Chol Is Innocent

The Tokyo Bar Association asserted that a Korean student in Japan whose death sentence was upheld in Seoul last March is innocent.

The association told a press conference on the afternoon of May 24 that Li Chol, 28, a postgraduate student from Japan at Koryo University in Seoul, had an alibi to establish his innocence.

At the request of Li's uncle, the association conducted a two-month investigation and gathered material evidence to establish his alibi in Japan during the period for which he was convicted of spying in south Korea for "north Korea."

Li Chol was sentenced to death for allegedly violating the "anti-communist law" and the "national security law."

Li Chol with four other Korean students from Japan, was arrested on December 11, 1975, in a "KCIA" plot to fabricate a new "campus spyring case."

Li was accused of having traveled to "north Korea" twice, "joined the Workers' Party of Korea" and "engaged in espionage activities in south Korea under instructions from the Workers' Party of Korea."

He was sentenced to death in May last year. His appeal to a higher court was rejected last December.

Li appealed to the supreme court in Seoul but it rejected his appeal and supported the higher court's death sentence on Mar. 8 this year. He is now seeking retrial by the higher court.

The association questioned and gathered material evidence from Li's friends and acquaintances.

According to the investigation, it is known that Li was in Japan from late September to early November 1969, although he was accused of visiting "north Korea" during that time.

His presence in Japan during the period in question can be proved by Li's letter to his mother in Kumamoto, the association spokesman said. The letter, dated Sep. 19, 1969, was postmarked by Tokyo's Shinjuku Post Office.

Moreover, from late September to late October 1969, Li was working part-time in his brother-in-law's store, helping with electrical engineering work, the association said.

Li was accused of visitin "north Korea" early to middle August 1973, but in actuality he was helping his father in architectural subcontractor work during this period, the association spokesman said.

Koreans in Canada, U.S. Collect Signers

5,000 Signatures Collected

Yun Bo Son, former south Korean "president", had an interview at his home with a journalist and made clear that the signature collection campaign for the democratic charter was under way and that already 5,000 signatures had been collected.

He said as follows: (1) The purpose of the struggle waged by the anti-"government" forces is to form a "National Association for Restoration of Democracy" as a nationwide organization; (2) The association will propose a three-country conference of south Korea, the U.S. and Japan for the maintenance of peace in the Korean Peninsula and for the restoration of democracy there. Former "presidential candidate" Kim Dae Jung, now in prison, must take part in this conference as a representative of the anti-"government" forces.

After the Rev. Ham Sok Hon, one of the signatories to the "declaration for democracy and national salvation," emphasized the need to continue the signature collection campaign for the charter, overseas Korean compatriots are also actively waging signature campaigns for the charter in response to the struggle for the anti-Pak forces at home for the restoration of democracy.

"The New Korea Times" of May 14 published by Korean residents in Canada reported that a "Construction Council for South Korean Democratic Society in Toronto, Canada," decided to start a signature collection campaign for the charter on May 12.

The paper carried the full text of the "declaration for democracy and national salvation" issued on March 22 by prominent south Korean figures, demanding the abolition of the "yushin constitution and emergency decrees" and the resignation of Pak, and appealed for participation in the signature collection campaign.

The appeal demanded that south Korean residents in Toronto actively join in the signature campaign for the charter, which is now being unfolded in the homeland as part of the struggle for the restoration of democracy, and said that your signature will encourage not only the headquarters of the signature campaign for the charter but also the democratic figures struggling in the homeland.

The "New York Branch Committee of the Joint Movement for Democracy in South Korea" decided to start a signature campaign throughout North America and plans to form a headquarters of the overseas promotion committee for the signature campaign in the U.S.

American Woman Quizzed by "KCIA"

An American female tourist was interrogated for three days by the "Korean Central Intelligence Agency" while she was touring south Korea, Amnesty International Japan Branch has announced.

The American involved is Kathleen E. Hasegawa, a faculty member at the Friends World College, of Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto, Japan.

According to Hasegawa, she went to south Korea as a tourist on Apr. 1 and was touring various parts.

On the evening of Apr. 18, she said, she was asked at a church in Seoul by an unknown south Korean woman whom she described as middle-aged to give an envelope the woman gave her to foreign correspondents.

She delivered it to an acquaintance of hers, Jene Matthews, an American Methodist missionary.

The following day Hasegawa was asked by the same south Korean woman to deliver another envelope which she did to two Japanese newsmen.

On the afternoon of May 6, Hasegawa said, five men came to the international house of a women's college in Seoul where she was staying and was taken to a detention room.

She said, "I was told there that I was suspected of having violated 'presidential decree No. 9' which bans all anti-government activity and the immigration law."

Hasegawa was questioned about the envelopes and their contents, her family, people she knows in south Korea, and her activities in south Korea.

She was ordered to report to the police to answer more questions for another two days, and she determined that she was being followed by the police. "My acquaintances in Seoul and even people who might have saw me while I was in the city were questioned by the police," she said.

Hasegawa went to Kimpo Airport on May 16 to leave for Japan. However, she was detained there by immigration officials and was told her case was still being investigated.

With the help of the American embassy, she said, she was able to leave for Japan later, however.

Upon returning to Japan, she reported what had happened in south Korea to the Amnesty International Tokyo Branch.

Amnesty international believes the interrogation of Hasegawa has something to do with the activities of missionary Jene Mattews, who is known to be involved with an anti-"government" movement.

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